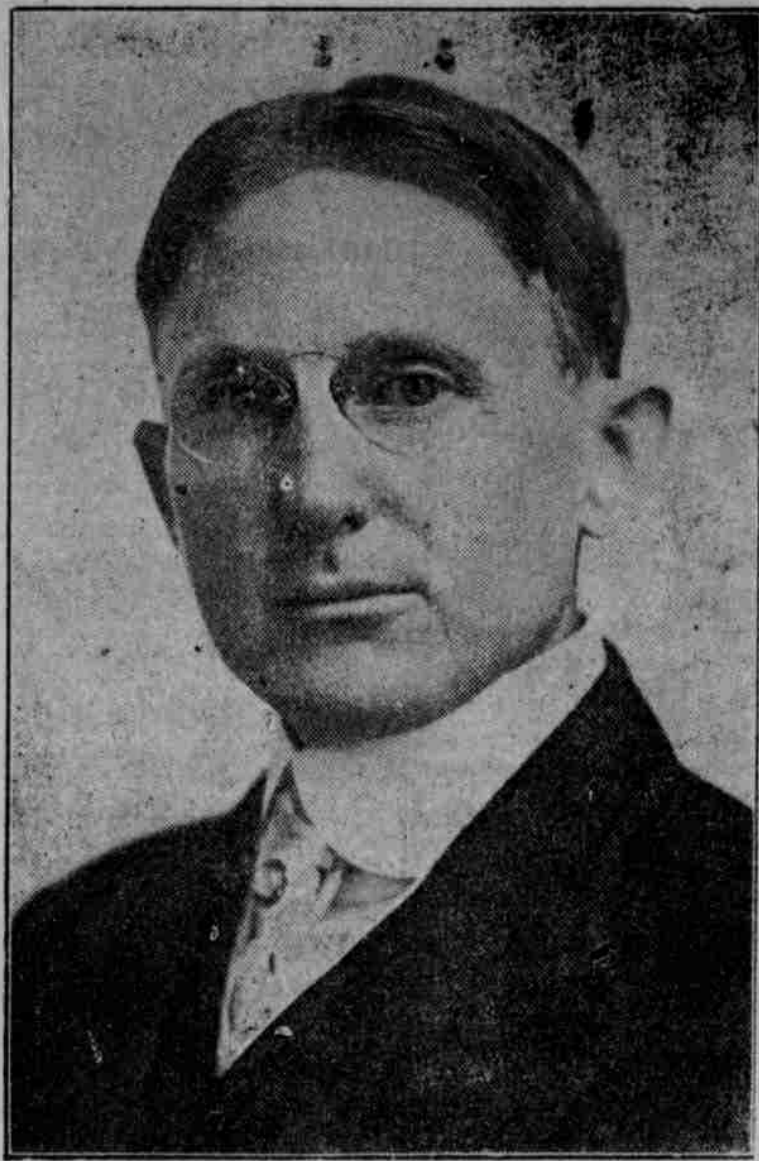


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DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

AUGUST 2

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CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON WORLD'S FAMED BATTLEFIELDS.
Members of the Congressional Committee on Military Affairs on their recent tour of the battlefields of France, following the trail of New York's own Seventy-seventh Division through the Argonne Forest.

APPRECIATIVE

Timely Advice Offered by the Bishop of Northampton in Pastoral Letter.

Catholics Should Combine Constructive Effort With Negative Protests.

Co-Operation in Social Work Earnestly Urged by Distinguished Prelates.

HIS REFERENCE TO AMERICA.

There is undeniably a tendency among Catholics in our country to condemn things they find to be wrong in public life and thus to strive to have the wrong righted. But there is another duty incumbent on them—that of constructive effort in bringing about positive betterment, instead of merely engaging in negative criticism. Both duties—that of protesting when necessity arises for protest and of constructive work, even to the extent of co-operating with those not of our faith—are clearly stated by the Bishop of Northampton in a pastoral letter. What the Bishop, the Right Rev. Frederick William Keating, seeks to impress upon his people is the value of American Catholics also. The Bishop treats also of one of two other interesting topics, based on experiences gained during his recent visit to the United States.

The Bishop insists on "independence of view" among the English Catholics, saying that "Catholicism should be constant to be a mere pawn of some political party, the blind disciple of the noisiest demagogue, the negligent and negligible hanger-on of his trade union, the dead echo of the party press." He says that the "Catholic working class in position calling for moral courage of the highest type at this critical moment," and urges the men of this class to register a strong protest against the guidance of irresponsible leaders. "Let them," he advises, "employ their voting strength and influence manfully, to dislodge from office and power those who misrepresent the true aims of trade unionism, and to replace them by honest men who will promote the interests of their own class without declaring an unjust war on every other class."

But firmness of conviction, and the launching of strong protests is not all that is necessary. Magr. Keating very correctly urges constructive co-operation with helpful agencies outside of our ranks.

"An attitude of protest," he says, "though sometimes incumbent on Catholics, is by no means the whole, or the most effectual part of his influence. In a country which is predominantly Protestant and where all kinds of false theories gain a following, nearly every popular movement is associated with objectionable elements, objectionable advocates, objectionable proposals, or objectionable methods. It is enough to refer to the education question, the temperance question, as well as the labor question. To coldly refuse co-operation because some of the persons or some of the measures are not all that a Catholic would wish is neither wise nor patriotic. Our fellow-countrymen, on the whole, whatever their limitations, are honestly bent on social betterment, and have remarkably open minds on the subject. Objectionable people become less objectionable when we get to know them. Objectionable features can be eliminated from a scheme by frank and friendly discussion. Anyhow, wrongs ought not to be left unredressed until an ideal scheme of reform is forthcoming; and if we turn down those that are proposed, our non-Catholic friends are entitled to demand from us a better. Even an imperfect scheme may be got to work well if well administered; but the administration is hardly likely to be committed to those who refuse to lend a hand in the framing of it. The exigencies of war-time, as everyone knows, have broken down social and religious barriers, and have brought together all sorts and conditions of people in an unprecedented way. Women especially, of all creeds and classes, have worked on the same committees, have nursed in the same hospitals, have been associated in the management of the same huts, buffets, soldiers' clubs and

K. OF C.

This Great American Order Now Faced by Gigantic Peace Task.

Have Big Future Work to Aid in Care for Nation's Youth.

Accomplishing Remarkable Results in Vocational Training for Our Soldiers.

FOSTER THE AMERICAN SPIRIT.

The Knights of Columbus were well known before they ever ventured into war relief work. But since they went into that exacting line of endeavor and made a decided success of it, they have found themselves not only famous, but depended upon by the nation to do big things in time of peace just as they did big things during the war. William J. McGinley, Supreme Secretary of the Knights of Columbus, who recently returned to his home in New York after an official visitation to the far Northwest K. of C. jurisdictions, states that he has come back to the East with a sense of this new responsibility which the country desires the Knights of Columbus to take. This was impressed upon him at every point he touched on his western trip.

"While no concrete programme has been put forward yet," says Secretary McGinley, "there is certainly a wide and strong feeling among the Knights of Columbus and among the mass of people who know the value of the K. of C. war work, that the Knights should now stand definitely forward as promoters and agents of beneficial movements in times of peace. The Knights have a vast reconstruction work in hand, which comprises the most widely ramified employment service in the country, with over 1,800 bureaus and over 37,000 workers. In vocational training for disabled soldiers the Knights are also accomplishing remarkable results, having thriving schools in some of the great camps. A comprehensive Americanization programme is also under way—a programme whose practice will be the fostering of the true American spirit in foreign-born aspirants for citizenship and their children through the K. of C. council unit.

"But the idea gaining more and more support throughout the country is that the Knights of Columbus should sponsor, in every city of practicable size, the erection and maintenance of a large social center, under Catholic auspices, but with doors open to all. These centers, it is proposed, should contain recreational facilities for young people and educational facilities for both young and old. As a matter of fact, an attempt is being made in Columbus, Ohio, the idea has not only been propounded—it is being put to the test. A campaign for \$300,000 for this very object is now under way with every prospect of success. Columbus may lead the way to similar campaigns in all the larger cities and in many of the smaller ones. A drive in New York is contemplated for the fall.

"The Knights of Columbus can not return to their former status of a widely organized but privately working association. The Knights must and will keep moving forward. With a rapidly increasing membership and an organization attuned to the highest efficiency by capable fulfillment of an immense war and reconstruction task, the Knights are prepared to assume new work as it becomes plain to them that they are qualified to do it and to do it well. The war proved the strength of the Knights of Columbus, and now that peace is here that strength must be maintained in service for the public good."

LEAVES FOR BELGIUM.

Rev. Julian T. Pieters, pastor of Holy Trinity church at Fredericktown, left last week for Belgium, where he will spend the summer visiting his family and relatives.



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